

during his three elections since. Dr. Mehas currently serves on the Fresno Compact Executive Board, Fresno State's President's Education Commission and Dean of Education Advisory Committee, and the UC Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Pete Mehas for earning the 2002 Distinguished Alumnus Award. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Pete Mehas more years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF
ASSEMBLYMAN JOHN E. ROONEY

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2002

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate an outstanding member of our community and of northern New Jersey—Assemblyman John E. Rooney, who tomorrow evening will be honored for his contribution to one of New Jersey's most worthy not-for-profit organizations, the Spectrum for Living. I am privileged to have known John as a constituent, as a talented municipal leader and state legislator, and as a valued friend and counselor.

Mr. Speaker, it is impossible to list all of the contributions John has made to New Jersey as a public servant over the last two decades. John has served with distinction as the Mayor of Northvale, and for almost twenty years has served as a Member of New Jersey's State Assembly. He has chaired the Northern Valley Community Development Program, served on the Bergen County Utilities Authority, and held the office of President of the Northern Valley

Mayors' Association. At the same time, John has been an active member and dedicated supporter of American Legion Post 366, the Vietnam Veterans for America Post 1, and the Elks Closter Lodge 2304. The residents of Northvale—and indeed, all of the Thirty-Ninth Legislative District of New Jersey—have been well-served and well-represented by John, as have the many members of our New Jersey community who have benefited from John's active civic involvement.

On November 8, 2002, John will be honored for his dedication, support, and contribution to Spectrum for Living. Spectrum is a not-for-profit organization that provides barrier-free residential facilities, nursing, psychological, recreational, vocational/educational, dietary, psychological, social and therapeutic services for persons with physical and developmental disabilities. Spectrum serves hundreds of people with disabilities, providing an environment where they are respected as individuals and given the freedom, responsibility, and opportunity to face and meet life's challenges. Spectrum provides the physical and emotional support that every individual needs to achieve his or her full potential.

John's well-deserved pride in this honor is shared by his wife Martha, and their children Beth and Patrick.

Mr. Speaker, through his decades of public service and good works, Assemblyman John Rooney exemplifies the American values that have made our country great. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating John on his achievements, and thanking and saluting him for his dedication and contribution to so many members of our New Jersey community.

HONORING THE KOEHLER FAMILY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Koehler family for their loyalty and exemplary dedication to the United States Armed Forces over the past 50 years. The Koehler family has exemplified heroism throughout the years through their service during World War I, World War II, and the Korean War.

Mr. David Koehler was the father of fourteen children, eleven of them sons; eight of which served in the United States Armed Forces. Mr. Koehler began his career with the United States Army and served in World War I. The Koehler brothers began enlisting in the Armed Forces in 1941. Chris, Jacob, Adam, John, and brother-in-law Rodger Schuester, served in the United States Navy during the World War II. William served in the United States National Guard and Army during World War II. During the Korean War, Henry and Edward joined the United States Air Force, and Sam followed in his father's footsteps by enlisting in the United States Army.

The Koehler family's time in the service demonstrates their commitment to our country. The contributions the Koehler family made during our times of war and peace have gone above and beyond the normal call of duty.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Koehler family for their patriotism and heroic efforts to keep our nation great and free. I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing deep gratitude to the Koehler family.